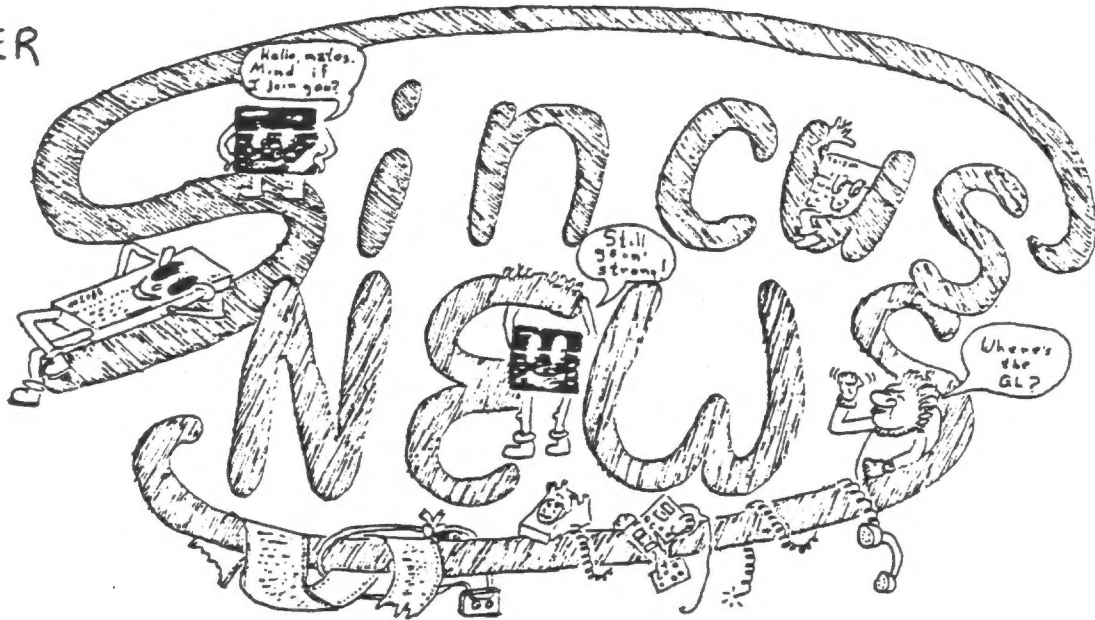


OCTOBER
1984

VOL. II
NO. 11



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BACK COVER

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT-What is the program?

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NEWS

From Canada--Spectrum ROM and instructions and chip remover for \$25, and a BIG selection of Spectrum software! The ads and write up on the Bulletin Board in the back of the room. Write:

E. McGhee, Suite 150, 10127 121 Street,
Edmonton, Alberta Canada.

some of the software titles they had were:

OCF master Toolkit	\$35
StarDreams Toolkit	\$18
Nectarine Toolkit	\$25
DKtronics Toolkit	\$25
Timedata TT-S	\$28
Tasword Two	\$35
Tasprint	\$25
Taswide	\$14
Tasmath 1	\$17
Tasman Centr. I/F	\$80
Tasman RS232 I/F	\$75
Sabre Wolf	\$29
Atic Atac	\$22
Lunar Jetman	\$22
Jet Pac	\$19
AD ASTRA	\$20
The Oracles Cave	\$25
Chequered Flag	\$20
Codename Mat	\$20
Psytron	\$29
Trashman	\$21
Mugsy	\$25
The Fall of Rome	\$23

Books on the Spectrum...\$14 to \$35, a dozen titles by some knowns, as Toni Baker and Hartnell and Jones, rest I've not heard of. The complete list available at the meets.

TS-Horizons, 2002 Summit St. Portsmouth, OH 45662
Subscription for \$15-12 issues. Currently about 32 pages per issues.

SYNOWARE NEWS, PO Box 64, Jefferson NH 03583.
1 year subscription is 16.95. Tom Woods is publisher. A copy of Vol 2 No 1 is at the back of the room on the club bulletin board for all to see. It looks pretty good and has something for the 1000 people too.

BASIC Computer Newsletter, 3705 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, FL 33137 \$12.95 for 6 issues(year). Copy of an issue on bulletin board for your viewing. If you've never seen this one take a good look.

The above copies from Carl Morris. Thanks Carl.

New in the mail! "TIME DESIGNS" a full feature magazine for the TS 2068 and other TS and Sinclair computers. \$3.00 for the first issue to Time Designs Magazine, 29722 Hult Rd., Colton, OR 97017. This is for the introductory issue; info on subscription rates in the issue. tell 'em you heard about it thru SINCUS.

Paul Hill
Recording Secretary
SINCUS

SINCUS ACTIVITIES:

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 17
MONTHLY MEETING
CHASE/FIRST CITY BANK

THURSDAY OCTOBER 25
CLASSES
VESTAL LIBRARY

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 20
CLASSES
VESTAL LIBRARY

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 21
MONTHLY MEETING
CHASE/FIRST CITY BANK

TUESDAY DECEMBER 18
CLASSES
VESTAL LIBRARY

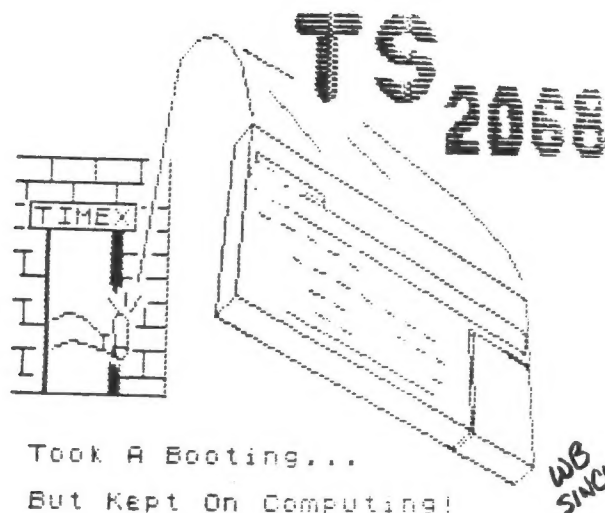
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 19
MONTHLY MEETING
CHASE/FIRST CITY BANK

AREA BULLETIN BOARDS

"JOHNSON CITY"	797-6416
"T.U.B.B.S."	722-0739
"S.T.A.T.E.S."	648-9377
"CYNGNUS"	729-5506

You may access using your modem. These are free to all users, but do not abuse this privilege! You will need to sign in and register with each one. There may be up to a weeks wait before you are authorized to use all of a BBS (bulletin boards) areas.

SECRETARY'S REPORT



SINCUS Sept 19 Meet.

--The regular monthly meeting of the Sinclair Computer Users' Society was held Wednesday, September 19, at 7pm at the Chase/1st City Bank Office on the Vestal Parkway, Vestal, NY. 27 Members attending.

--Gary Ennis, President, opened the meeting with the suggestion that the society make a donation to the Diabetes Association in Carl Terry's memory. A motion to that effect was made, seconded and passed unanimously by all present.

--The second order of business was the type font to be used on the newsletter. Three styles available were voted on the ballot sheet which was passed around the room. Results will determine future productions. Last issue was 123 copies.

--In the last issue Gary called for help in two newsletter areas. Wes Brzozowski answered the need for new graphics, and over the weekend designed new SINCUS NEWS mast head and article headers. A couple of volunteers came forward for the task of recopying articles out of old SINCUS NEWS on to TASWORD. Thank you.

--Our publication library has finally found a home. Ed Tribe, Deposit, NY now gets to lug all the mags home and read 'em all! If you have any magazines from the library, PLEASE bring them in next meet. We are looking for old (1980-early 1982) SYNC and SQ issues 1,3,4.

--CHESS-O-RAMA moves on. Sunday October 14, at 2pm at the Vestal Library. In addition to the chess matches between Sinclair, Tandy, Atari and Commodore, there will be displays of the Sinclair computers. A ZX80, ZX81, S1000, TS1500 and the TS 2068 will be shown with copies of ads and info on the club.

Took A Booting...
But Kept On Computing!

--Your attendance even for a few minutes would be appreciated.

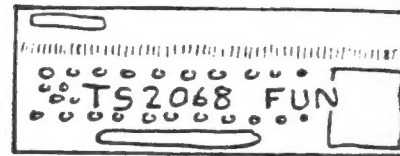
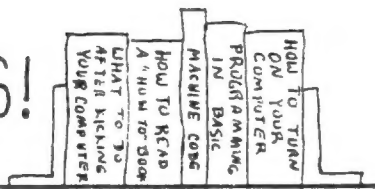
--George Penney, charter member, Owego, NY, demoed his "Cash Register" program which he wrote for the TS1000/16K. He has used it in his business 'The Hub' in downtown Owego. The program when used with the 1000/16K and 2040 printer, keeps record of all entered transactions, makes receipts and end of day tallies. Future program additions will keep track of inventories. The cost (new) of the equipment-\$250 verses over \$1000 for a top of the line model without half the potential. George, a programmer from the days when 16K was just a dream, has had a language program in mind for use in the 1000 sans 16K.

--In response to last month's questions about the FORTH language, Wes B. got together a talk on the language and demoed a 1000 FORTH program. It is faster than BASIC and easier to program than MC. There is no error checking so CRASHING is a big potential. It takes a lot of time to learn to use and pays off in learning new ideas! Like everything else it ain't easy to decide on buying.

--Since Wes wasn't apparently doing much, he had the time to put together a 64 column demo program. Using machine code, it ran fast, just like a WF program we know, but it could also split screen scroll and darken the letters. I made a copy of it and after cruising thru the listings a couple of times and running it twice I had one big beautiful CRASH!!!!%##@#...

Paul Hill
Recording Secretary
SINCUS

CLASSES!



THURSDAY

OCTOBER 25TH

7:00 PM

VESTAL PUBLIC LIBRARY
 VESTAL PARKWAY in Vestal
 (next to Skylark Restaurant)
 (across from Star Cleaners)

PROGRAM -

FOR THE NEW COMPUTER USER

Paul Hill, SINCUS, will cover many of the things that puzzle the new user after you get the computer home. Bring notepad and lots of questions.

FOR THE PERSON WHO WANTS TO PROGRAM

John Sims, SINCUS, will deal with using Machine Code in your programs. This will start at square one, so attend the initial class to get the fundamentals.

Gary Ennis, SINCUS, will add to this session with instruction in programming-to get you away from programming by the "seat of your pants".

VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE

These instructors are voluntarily giving another night each month (not to mention the preparation time) so that SINCUS may offer this instruction that has so often been asked for by members. We will be watching the attendance very closely to determine if it is worth continuing. Please come out if this is something you are interested in. Support the efforts and you will, in turn, benefit by it!

+++++

KNIGHTED COMPUTERS

707 HIGHLAND STREET
 FULTON, NEW YORK 13069
 (315)593-8219

FEATURING FOR THE TS 2068: FOR THE TS2068/SPECTRUM ROM:

DEATHCHASE	\$19.95	ANT ATTACK	\$19.95
MUSICOLA	\$24.95	FRED	\$19.95
SMART II	\$29.95	SNOWMAN	\$19.95

THAT'S RIGHT!!!

SMART II IS IN! \$29.95

USE THE JOYSTICK IN LEFT PORT
 TO DRAW UP, DOWN, OR DIAGONALLY

USE BUTTON TO CLEAR SCREEN OR
 POSITION FIRST PLOT POSITION

Press any key to continue

```

5 REM doodlejoy
10 CLS : GO SUB 500
20 BORDER 8
30 LET X=128: LET Y=88
40 PLOT X,Y
50 LET C=STICK (1,1)
60 LET X=X+(C=9)+(C=8)+(C=10)-
(C=7)-(C=4)-(C=6)
70 LET Y=Y+(C=9)+(C=1)+(C=8)-(
C=5)-(C=2)-(C=10)
80 LET X=X-(X)/255+(X*(8)
90 LET Y=Y-(Y)/175+(Y*(8)
100 IF STICK (2,1)=1 THEN CLS
110 GO TO 40
120 PRINT AT 2,6:" "
130 PRINT AT 4,6:" "
140 PRINT AT 6,6:" "
150 PRINT AT 8,6:" "
160 PRINT AT 9,6:"USE THE JOYST
ICK IN LEFT PORT TO DRAW UP, DOU
N, OR DIAGONALLY"
170 PRINT AT 14,6:"USE BUTTON T
O CLEAR SCREEN OR POSITION FIRST
PLOT POSITION"
180 PRINT AT 19,6:"Press
any key to continue"
190 PAUSE 0
200 CLS
210 RETURN
220 SAVE "doodlejoy" LINE 1: SE
E END

```

Thanks to John Colonna, SINCUS!

TIME~~X~~^{ly} TIPS

One of the great advantages of the TS 2068 over other computers is the ease with which you can create alphabets which may be reserved above RAMTOP and accessed from the keyboard. You need 1024 bytes for each alphabet. A possible way of accomplishing this is to PEEK the full character set in ROM and POKE it in the reserved section of RAM. Then the letters which you have created on graph paper may be put in a DATA statement, READ and POKEd into the alphabetic part of the character set. This allows many of the non-alphabetic symbols to be used for letters (Armenian has 38 lower case and 38 capitals) and all the functions of the computer are available.

A simple BASIC program changes the address of the start of the full character set to the new location. A machine code program puts one of several User Defined character sets into User Defined memory. Once the alphabets are in reserved memory, they may be SAVED on tape with a CODE statement. An outline of the programs follows:

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATES!

Membership expiration dates now appear in the upper right hand corner of your mailing label. If there is any error in that date, please bring it to our attention IMMEDIATELY. If the date is marked in pink then our records indicate your membership has expired and this is the last issue of SINCUS NEWS that you will receive. You may mail your renewal to:

SINCUS
PO Box 36
Johnson City, NY 13790

Memberships are:
Regular member \$8.00/year
Corresponding member \$6.00/year

NUMBER of PAGES, PAGE no., ROMAN

CLEAR ddddd (dddd is a variable!)

```
10 REM characters
20 FOR I=dddd TO dddd
30 FOR J=(PEEK 15360) TO (PEEK
  16383)
40 POKE I,J
50 LET I=I+1
60 NEXT J
70 NEXT I
```

```
10 REM [name of alphabet]
20 FOR I=dddd [+256] TO dddd
30 READ x
40 POKE I,x
50 PRINT I, PEEK I
60 NEXT I
70 DATA ddd,ddd, etc.
80 DATA etc.
```

```
9300 LET nop=d
9310 INPUT pno
9315 LET v=65356-pno*168
9320 LET phi=INT (v/256)
9330 LET plo=v-phi*256
9400 RESTORE
9420 For n=65356 TO 65367
9430 READ a
9440 POKE n,a
9450 NEXT n
9460 RANDOMIZE USR 65756
9480 DATA 1,168,0,17,88,255,33
  ,plo,phi,237,176,201
9490 STOP
```

```
9500 INPUT Q$
9510 IF Q$="a" THEN LET Y=dddd
  d
9520 IF Q$="r" THEN LET Y=1536
  0
  etc.
9560 POKE 23606,(Y-256* INT (Y
  /256)): POKE 23607, INT (Y/256
  )
9570 STOP
```

STANLEY LIVINGSTON
SINCUS





REVIEW

FOR TS 1000

by Ted Koranye

TSFOOTBALL by Ed Hagen
For the ZX81/1000 16K,
7.2 minute load time.

--This is a program for the dyed-in-the-wool football fan, especially if he has aspirations of becoming a quarterback. It is remarkable how much realistic information this program handles such as scores, downs, yardage, periods, time left plus a choice of seven offensive or seven defensive formations.

--The accompanying instruction sheet explains the finer points such as penalties and weaknesses of some defensive formations. The graphics and data are adequate but some are displayed for too short a time on screen, with no all feature. The field goal kick is the only moving graphic.

--SUMMARY: While the program works as advertised, being a non-rabid fan, I am not thrilled by it, especially now that Howard Cossell is no longer with us to explain things to me.

BIORHYTHMS by Frank D. Ralston
ZX81/1000 with 16K Ram
4.5 min. Load time.

--This is a pseudo-scientific correlation between your birthday and the rhythmic variations of your physical, emotional and intellectual abilities for any desired date; akin to the cult of Astrology and Horoscopes.

--The machine language program is user friendly, loads easily and if "SAVED" GOTO 10 (instead of RUN). An optional 5 "page" description of the theory and interpretation of the chart is included on tape and makes interesting reading, espically if you believe in the tooth fairy and also read tea leaves. The chart, composed of 3 interlaced sine curves, having periods (rhythms) of 23, 28 and 33 days, purportedly indicates what days are favorable and unfavorable for mental, emotional and physical undertakings; during the day (and night!). It is idiot proofed to the extent that it will not accept spuricuous dates like Feb. 29 on a non-leap year.

--Extensive research has uncovered one or two things it will not predict. It cannot indicate when your mother-in-law is likely to come for a surprise visit, nor on what days it is safe to sneak thru a red traffic light.

SUMMARY: This is a delightful, entertaining program and it is well orchestrated. It is recommended for your program library. P.S. The information you obtain may or may not be useful but you will end up knowing how to spell-Biorithems.

ED NOTE: the above programs were sent to SINCUS by Sight & Sound Electronics, 1120 Bailey Hill Rd, Shop 10, Eugene, OR 97402, last month on the recommendation of one our corresponding members. Included with the programs was a video inverter- a device which you implant in your ZX81 or 1000 and get white on Black. I did ask a couple if they wanted to try this, but had no takers. At the last meeting I completely forgot to bring this up and it all sat right in front me. I'll return these items after next meet, unless someone wants to buy any or all, the prices are:

- Video Reverse--\$14.95
- Biorhythms----\$ 7.95
- Football-----\$ 7.95

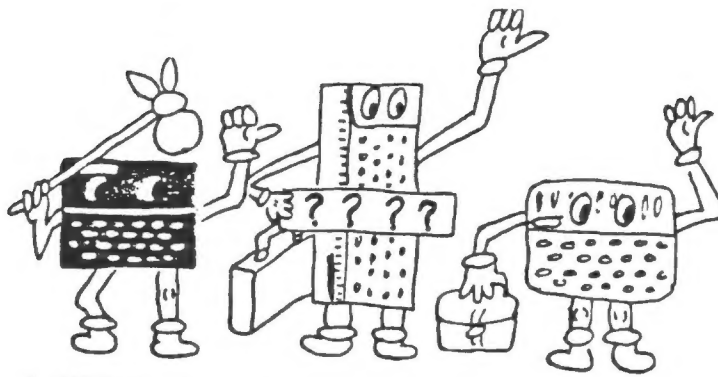
+++++
One of our corresponding members Russ Gundlach, writes of his problems with the keyboard on his TS1000. The plastic over the letter X is split and sometimes the x prints all by itself. A 2nd TS1000 he bought for the keyboard, when plugged in a cursor block comes up with no letter in it. And nothing happens when any key is pushed. Any ideas on a simple repair? He'll use the keyboard off one 1000 and the board from the other if the mystery of the empty cursor can't be solved.

WANTED

WORKING
16K RAM PACK
for TS1000

CALL: JIM CORCORAN
(607) 748-7024

6 ↑ HELP! ↑



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE ?

Being an ongoing yet conveniently intermittent column of reviews, ranting, raving, and free advertising for those who catch the attention of:

WES BRZOWSKI

Through numerous pieces of correspondence, I'm finding that the world of Spectrum Emulation is far larger than first expected. Groups around the country are using various methods to achieve this goal. The fact that not one, but many methods are being used, suggests that each has advantages and disadvantages not in the others. We'll explore those advantages and disadvantages. Before going on, I'd like to say that after having taken my first steps with the Spectrum Emulators, I'm totally hooked. Those considering doing the same should be warned!

For those just tuning in, a Spectrum emulator is a piece of hardware that makes a TS2068 act very much like its British counterpart, the ZX Spectrum. This will allow most, (but not all) of the thousands of available Spectrum programs to run on our support-hungry TS2068's. (TS 1000 users should be pleased to know that they need no emulator to run British ZX-81 software).

The simplest method of Spectrum emulation is to open your TS2068, unplug the home ROM (be careful!! There are two ROMs in there!) and plug in a Spectrum ROM. Since this will prevent a lot of your TS2068 software from working, it's not a step to take lightly. Note that you can't do a lot of switching back and forth, since the ROM pins will start breaking off if they're plugged and unplugged too many times. Still, with TS2068's selling for \$99 in New York City, a lot of SINCUS members have bought "spare" computers. Rather than let that extra machine gather dust, it can be put to work as a pseudo-spectrum (or something like that). You won't get the two machines mixed up; TS2068's initialize and then put two copyright messages on the screen, while Spectrums put up only one.

Spectrum ROMs are available for \$20.00 plus \$1.00 shipping and handling from Foote Software, P.O. Box 14655, Gainesville, Florida 32604. (ED. NOTE—a contact on CompuServe indicates Spectrum ROMs are available from England for \$7.00—more at the October meeting). If you've already got a spare TS2068, this is the cheapest way to own a "Spectrum".

Here's a warning. While there are dealers like the one above, who sell Spectrum ROMs as just that, some dealers may be less honest. Some unscrupulous characters out there might advertise Spectrum emulators, and just be shipping ROMs. Beware of those offering emulators at "rock bottom prices", and be sure you know what you're getting before you send any money.

A second type of emulator is a small printed circuit board that's fitted to plug into the TS 2068's home ROM socket, and which holds both the TIMEX and the Spectrum ROMs, selected by a switch. By changing the switch setting, you can go from the TS2068 to the Spectrum mode, a back. This method is far more versatile, but we mustn't expect to get something for nothing. For \$54.95, G. Russell Electronics, R.D.#1, Box 539, Centre Hall, PA 16828 will sell you a ROMSWITCH, which appears to function as this second emulator type. I have not tried (nor even actually seen) this product, but the advertisement suggests that the mode is selected by means of a magnetic read switch. This very clever method would allow you to select the Spectrum or TS2068 mode by place (or not placing) a magnet on top of your TS2068!

Although I might change my opinion if I used an actual ROMSWITCH, I fear that bumping the magnet would be an ideal way of crashing the computer; I'd be terrified of placing my hands anywhere near it! Another possible problem is that magnets can erase your program tapes! Using this method, you would have to develop your work habits so that you always know exactly where the magnet is when you're not using it! The magnet and your tapes should never be placed in the same spot even for an instant.

Please understand that the above paragraph is based totally on deduction. I've not used the device, and it's designers may have found some clever way of solving those problems that I'm not aware of. Nevertheless, I feel obligated to comment on potential problems, as well as to correct any errors in future editions of this column. Anyone with actual experience with this product is invited (nay, pleaded) to contact me,

Emulator methods that use an actual Spectrum ROM sometimes have trouble initializing when the power is turned on. To correct this minor inconvenience, simply shut the power off, and turn it on again. The later production runs of the TS2068 reportedly have trouble 20 per cent of the time, while earlier runs have trouble much more frequently.

An advantage of both of the above methods is that (unlike the method I'm about to describe) they don't tie up the TS2068 cartridge port. Although TIMEX cartridge software will not work with the Spectrum ROM, and there's unlikely to be any great quantity of cartridge software produced to work with the Spectrum ROM, it should be possible to produce machine code cartridges that can work with it. Anyone who plans to do this will naturally select one of the previous two methods.

A third type emulator is built into a printed circuit card that plugs into the TS2068 cartridge port. When turned on, the machine first initializes normally, momentarily showing the two copyright notices, then it initializes again, leaving only one Sinclair copyright message. I've tried out one of those, and it works perfectly every time. Apparently the first initialization by the TIMEX ROM clears up the initialization problem associated with the Spectrum ROM.

This method has the advantage of not requiring you to open your TS2068, risking damage to the innards. Disadvantages include the need to plug and unplug the cartridge to switch modes (the connector in the cartridge port will not last forever), the need to tie up the cartridge port in the first place, and the fact that this emulator is the most expensive. Unfortunately, in order to make the cartridge self-starting, four bytes of the Spectrum code had to be changed. This means that the relatively cheap Spectrum ROM had to be replaced with an expensive 16K x 8, 27128 EPROM.

This runs the price up to \$60.00, but you get a lot more than just an emulator. The group that produces them is helpful, cooperative, and enthusiastic, and can provide a lot of support for their emulator users. The literature I received includes a huge list of Spectrum programs that run with their emulator, as well as some that don't need an emulator, a few that only work with a Spectrum ROM, and a few that don't work at all. They also provided a lot of information on British publications and US dealers of Spectrum products. (Note that the US dealers are charging 2-3 times what you'd pay by ordering directly from England).

It becomes quite clear that these people are not just merchants trying to sell a gadget, but people who thoroughly enjoy theirs and are determined that their customers share that enjoyment.

By the way, "they" are the TRIANGLE SINCLAIR USERS GROUP. Write to Douglas F. Dewey, 206 James Street, Carrboro, NC 27510. They also publish an excellent newsletter, which should keep us all up to date on the latest news in emulator dom. Membership in the group which includes the newsletter, is \$10 per year, and it's worth it.

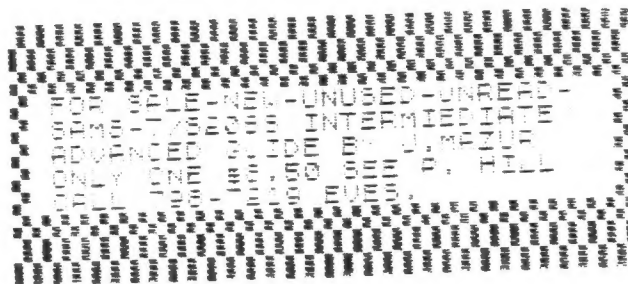
To date, I've built three plug-in cartridge circuits, and two have been run as emulators. From work with them, I'm sure an interesting thing will happen if a plug-in cartridge is built with a cheap Spectrum ROM. When the TS2068 is turned on, the ROM will remain inactive, and the machine will "come up" as a TS2068. By loading and running a small software "bootstrap" it will be possible to switch back and forth between Spectrum and TS2068 modes. I have the software bootstrap and I've simulated the Spectrum ROM with other memory circuitry.

Although loading the bootstrap is a small inconvenience, it's also a tremendous advantage. The cartridge need not be plugged/unplugged to switch modes, and no magnets are needed; the switch is in the software. As an added benefit, the TIMEX ROM performs the first initialization, so the simulated Spectrum ROM never has trouble starting up. Best of all, it works perfectly, every single time!

Unfortunately, it's taken more words than I had wished to describe the latest in emulators. I'll have to hold off until next time for more words on British vendors and publications. Hopefully, in the next couple of months, I'll also have word on some new British ZX-81 (TS1000) games that use the high resolution tricks we've seen demonstrated at SINCUS meetings.

Speaking of SINCUS meetings-see you all there!!!

WES BRZOZOWSKI
SINCUS



HISTORY OF SINCUS

Over twenty years ago a young Englishman, Clive Sinclair, left school at 17, got interested in electronic gadgets, and figured the world ready for his inventions. A hand held calculator was his first effort and it is on display at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. In early 1970 he marketed a do it your self digital "Black watch". He then formed Sinclair Research with the idea of an inexpensive home computer, a flat screen TV and an electric car. Clive began selling the ZX-80, a white cased Z80 CPU, 1K RAM with 4K ROM home computer for \$199.95 here in the USA. As quick as it caught on, demands for improvements pushed out the ZX-81. Initially selling for \$149.95, with a 8K ROM, 1K RAM and a 16K RAM for \$ 99.95, the ZX-81 sold over 10000 a month. A do-it-yourself kit for the 81 sold for \$99.95 . By July 1982 the prices started coming down, the 16K RAM sold for \$49.95. Sinclair and TIMEX got together to sell in the USA. Up to this point the ZX80/81 had been sold thru the mail. The TS1000 which was a ZX81 with a 2K RAM sold for \$99.95. The 1000 hit the market just before the 1982 Christmas season. Clive became a multi-millionaire with his world wide selling computers and he is reinvesting millions into his electric car dream. November 16, 1982, a large group of home computer users responding to a sign up sheet at Brian Sternburg' Unicorn Electronics, met at the Johnson City American Legion Post. I presented my ideas for the forming of a Sinclair computer user group, with no objections took the task of writing a charter and asking for volunteers to help with the task of creating a club. Jim Jones, wife Kathy, Al Henninger, Roger Pufky, Bridget Kermenec, Jerry Kendrick and Dean Kirlin meet with me several times to get a charter written, notify all of the charter meeting in December 1982. I read the charter and after some discussion, the charter was passed. I appointed officers to help me run the club until the elections set for May 1983. Dean Kirlin got out the first newsletter in January 1983. The first few months of SINCUS were plagued by a lack of volunteers, overloading a few we had and losing them to work or family commitments. We were fortunate to discover Wes Brzozowski, Dick Petrak, Dan Dodway who time and time again have given talks, written articles and added their support to the newly formed club.

The meetings started out rather formal with reports and all, but it became obvious that the people were here to learn about computers and the form and substance of the club just was time consuming. Over the next few months the meets were designed to put the computer up front and the mechanics of running the club left to Executive Committee meets.

SYNC magazine which Ziff-Davis started as soon as the ZX80 caught on in the US was front runner as the mag of the users. SYNTAX a newsletter of first rate quality had started in 1980, the early days of ZX computing. In the spring of 1983, TIMEX-Sinclair User magazine made its debut and was off and running. Many of the articles were from its British cousin the Sinclair User.

During the first months the problem of loading programs in the 1000 was on everyone's list. We put together a helpful hints sheet, members offered ideas on the nemsis to an otherwise simple yet complex tool in the computer age. It was not until February 1984 that Wes Brzozowski showed the problem to be in the alignment of the heads of the recorder. Uncorrected this problem will follow you into the 2068. Problems with over heating were corrected with the addition of holes, bigger and black heat sinks. Wobbling 16K RAMS were tied down with rubber bands and velcro strips. The Binghamton Library came to us for help with their new computer lending program. About 28 members signed up for a help list. As it turns out the only problems incurred are the wearing out of the user manuals and the power plug !

In April 1983 Gary Ennis joined and took over the task of running the newsletter. The newsletter went from the one or two pages I'd been trying to knock out to over 4 or 5 a month. Gary began trying to get a little advertising going for us to get even a bigger letter out.

Meanwhile in England Clive wasn't sitting still with millions of ZX81-1000 being sold. His ZX Spectrum, a color computer, hit the English market in April 1982. With a Beep and colors and either 16K or 48K RAM the new computer could be hooked up to Micro-drives, small looped tape mini cassettes. Knighted by the Queen, Sir Clive was busy designing his business computer to take on the computer giants, the QL, Quantum Leap.

In May of 1983 the first elections were held and the results were:

Paul Hill - President
Bridget Kermenec - V President
Glenn Wilson - Treasurer
Wes Brzozowski - Rec. Secretary
Gary Cole - Financial Secretary
Richard Petrak - Trustee; Librarian
Gary Ennis - Trustee; Newsletter Editor

Our meeting locations from February to June were all over the map. From the American Legion in Johnson City, we traveled to the Vestal Library, to the Endicott Public Library, to the classrooms at Broome Community College, and to the 'incubator' at the Hooper Annex in Endwell. I hoped the membership wouldn't get lost with all the shuffling and we made it intact but with a few bewildered users. Our membership reached a high point of 75 in May 1983. Again work loads took away some of our best workers. By the end of 1983 membership had fallen to less than 40.

The summer of 1983 at the Hooper Annex was a low point in attendance. Everyone that showed had something to demo, and we all looked at the equipment, sweated and went home. The TIMEX Corp was still coming out with the 2000 machine in the fall and the 1500 was a rumor. The future at this point looked confusing. When the 2068 was finally put on the market TIMEX didn't seem to put its whole heart into advertising the new 2068. Still Gary Ennis and Carl Terry were first in line to get their 2068, hot off the assembly line, and they did in mid October. Our first anniversary of SINCUS saw the 2068 for the first time. It was a show that convinced several to go out and buy then and there. Many others wanted one too, but the price of \$179.95 at Sears was just a bit too high. With the history of TIMEX machines selling for half price in less than nine months, many 1000 owners decided to wait until spring. Rumors of problems at TIMEX began to surface late in 1983 and January of 1984. The rug was pulled out from under everyone in the last part of February, when the announcement came that TIMEX was no longer in the computer business. The third party support soon dried up. SYNC closed its doors, TIMEX-SINCLAIR USER never reopened after its December issue. Doom and gloom was the future. The only bright spot shining at that hour was the announcement that Sinclair was returning to the US to market the QL via mail-order.

Elections were held May 1984 and the results were:

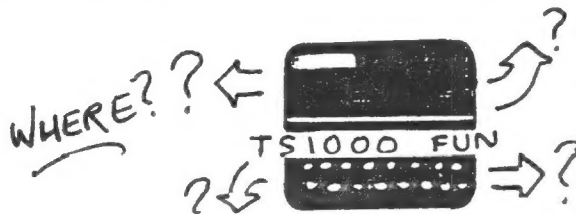
Gary Ennis - President
Gary Cole - V. President
Glenn Wilson - Treasurer
Paul Hill - Rec. Secretary
Jerry Knickerbocker - Financial Secretary
Richard Petrak - Trustee
John Sims - Trustee

Well today is now the future of yesterday, we at SINCUS are still alive and computing. Our membership roles are up to over 65 members, 3 corresponding members and 1 subscribing user group with new members each month. The 2068 is now the main machine of SINCUS. The Tasmac interface has opened up the full size printers for our use, the TASWORD 2 word processing program makes letters a joy to write. The modem for the whole series of computers for telecommunications has arrived with 2 at this writing to choose from. The 2040 printer, has been replaced by the Alphacom 32 at half the price of the TS2040. The availability of the ZX Spectrum ROM makes all the software (thousands of titles) runnable on the 2068. The potential for disc use lies within reach. Already members are working on the interface for a disc drive. Our desire is not to see the use of the 1000-1500 machines take a back seat to the 2068. What we need is the members who still use these machines to write about them, bring up your problems and use our library of 1000's programs.

Currently the society is involved in telecommunications, a hardware project is in the works and classes in BASIC and machine code languages are underway. In addition the club still has a tape library and a publication library. Sales of bulk blank tape and 2040 paper reduce the cost to members and help the treasury a little. In October the society is sponsoring a multi-user group meet for a computer to computer chess match. As of this writing, Atari, Commodore and CoCo-Radio Shack groups will be involved with us. Local area bulletin boards are opening up and local communication potential is being realized.

NO TS1000 FUN!
PLEASE SUBMIT LISTINGS!

10



SINCUS is users. Users are people. The people are great. The fun and enjoyment of being with people who want to learn a new task or learn a new skill makes what might seem like work to others a lot of fun. Since we have in common a desire to learn more about the world of computing with our Sinclair machines, we also use this opportunity to network with others our experiences good and bad in the mail-order business market in the hopes of saving others from bad programs, businesses and hardware. SINCUS swaps newsletters with a large number of very active user groups across the country. We also let a large number of businesses know that we are here and going strong. We get almost daily advertising for support for the Sinclair computer, programs, hardware and books thru our JC mail box. These ads and letters from users around the country are yours for the viewing at the monthly meets. Pen Pals with our corresponding members is encouraged.

PAUL HILL
SINCUS

ED NOTE-

Faul Hill was the founder, organizer, and the President for the first two years of SINCUS

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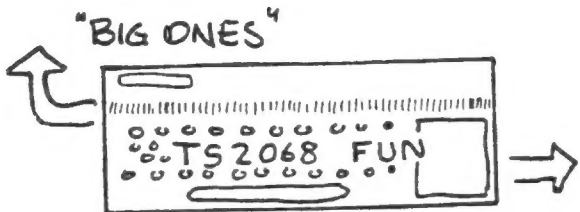
LEARN HOW THE CHARACTER SET IS ARRANGED IN THE MEMORY OF THE TS2068 COMPUTER. USE BIG ONES TO DISPLAY THE ADDRESS IN MEMORY, THE BINARY EXPRESSION, AND A "BIG ONE" OF THE CHARACTER YOU WANTED! HAVE FUN AND LEARN!!

8000, DECI, BINARY, BIG ONE

150028	0	00000000
150029	60	00111100
150030	66	01000010
150031	64	01000000
150032	78	01001110
150033	66	01000010
150034	60	00111100
150035	0	00000000



CHARACTER G CODE IS 71
ENTER "COPY" TO COPY THIS PAGE

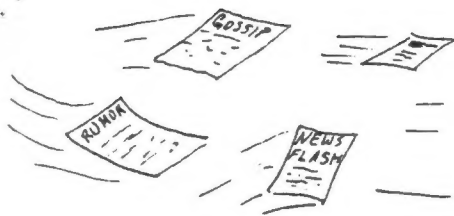


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5 REM "BIG ONES"
2K EXPRESS
GARY U. ENNIS
CHICAGO, NEW YORK
DECEMBER 1983
10 FLASH 1: INK 2: PRINT AT 21
  0) " LOADED! STOP TAPE RECORDE
11 FLASH 0: INK 0: PRINT AT 1,
  7) " 2K EXPRESS
15 INPUT "PRESS ENTER TO PROCES
ED" Z#
16 FLASH 0: CLS
17 LET CHOOSE=0
18 GO TO 170
20 REM 8000 START ADDRESS OF
8000
25 LET A=PEEK 23608+256*PEEK 2
3607
34 IF CHOOSE=1 THEN GO TO 40
35 FOR C=33 TO 122
40 BORDER 4: BRIGHT 1: PAPER 6
  INK 0: CLS
45 PRINT "8000, DECI, BINARY
  BIG ONE"
55 REM 8000 ADDRESS OF CHARACTER
8000
60 LET D=8+C+A
70 FOR X=0 TO 7
75 REM 8000 ADDRESS OF L-2*INT
8000
80 LET L=PEEK (D+X)
86 REM 8000 ADDRESS OF BINARY
8000
90 PRINT AT X+2,0;D+X;TAB 7;L
100 FOR Z=19 TO 12 STEP -1
100 IF L-2*INT (L/2)=1 THEN PAP
ER 6: INK 9
110 PRINT AT X+2,Z;L-2*INT (L/2)
111 REM 8000 ADDRESS OF
8000
115 PAPER 6
120 IF L-2*INT (L/2)=1 THEN PRI
NT AT X+2,Z+10;"": BEEP ,1;Z
130 LET L=INT (L/2)
140 NEXT Z
145 NEXT X
150 PRINT AT 19,0;"CHARACTER"
  (CHR# 0)" CODE IS "Z#
155 PRINT AT 20,0;"ENTER ""COPY
"" TO COPY THIS PAGE"
160 INPUT ""COPY""&/or ENTER T
O CONTINUE "Z#
165 IF Z#="COPY" THEN COPY
166 IF CHOOSE=1 THEN GO TO 190
167 NEXT C
170 CLS : PRINT "TO SEE THE ENT
IRE CHARACTER SET TYPE ""SET"" A
ND PRESS ENTER."
172 PRINT ""YOU CAN CALL UP
INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERS. IF TH
AT IS WHAT YOU WANT TO DO THEN ENTER
""CHOOSE""
175 INPUT ""CHOOSE"" OR ""SET"
""Z#
176 IF Z#="CHOOSE" THEN GO TO 1
90
180 GO TO 20
190 LET CHOOSE=1
195 BORDER 2: PAPER 3: INK 0: C
L
205 PRINT "JUST PRESS THE LETTE
R OR NUMBER THAT YOU WANT TO SEE
THEN PRESS ENTER."
208 INPUT Z#
209 LET C=CODE Z#
210 GO TO 25

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jk



2K-EXPRESS

EDIT - Many thanks to the help that responded to my call in the last issue. The new art work-back cover, front cover, TIMELY Tips, 2K EXPRESS, Secretary's Report, Review, Classes, and "fun" directional signs-many, many thanks to WES BRZOZOWSKI. Not to mention Wes' usual monthly written contribution, outstanding 2 pages! Thanks to PAUL HILL for his most extensive writing this month-his secretary's report PLUS his new monthly column (see how editor's get commitments!) that will review the goings on in club newsletters (Wes will be reviewing technological goings on from the same newsletters-EDIT strikes again!) PLUS Paul wrote the review of SINCUS' first two years-PLUS another article that I'm holding back for November-"Who Is Sir Clive?". When I have this quality to work with-it makes editing a lot easier. STAN LIVINGSTON is a new contributor as he explains how he does his character sets (see TIMELY Tips). JOHN COLONNA contributed another short TS2068 routine-(I've only got one left tho, John!). And TED KORANYE made a big contribution, besides being the driving force behind the CHESS-O-RAMA idea. TED did some reviews of 2 TS 1000 pieces of software-I call it Bio Graph, Ted! Another plea was answered by CLYDE TACKLEY who has typed many back SINCUS articles in TASWORD TWO "standard" format (elite style, 48 character width) and these will be published as a Second Anniversary SINCUS Supplement! It will be available at the November meeting. The plan is to run 50 copies and sell them at cost. Thanks to MRS. PATSY HOLMES for typing the rest of the articles!

POKEing fun: it was one of the best examples of "Garbage In/Garbage Out" when the Dallas Cowboys (famous for "computerizing the tendencies of their opponents) TWICE ran the same play down near the NY Giants goal. The play's design made it very difficult to block the defenses outside linebacker (in the case of the Giants a fellow named Lawrence Taylor). Dallas end Doug Cosbie responded, "I was supposed to block him? He never blitzes inside the 20 yard line!" So much for tendencies-two Dallas plays, two Lawrence Taylor rushing in untouched, two Cowboy fumbles-one is picked up and run 81 yards for a Giant TD (by the other Giant linebacker who did NOT encounter too much blocking either!). The computer does NOT block!

NEW-with the availability of SMART II modem software - a big thanks to RAY PAYNE of the KNIGHTED COMPUTER company for calling me to tell me they had it! - telecommunications is moving forward. SMART II will allow us to up and download files (that is transmit programs and other data over the telephone). I can see it now-December newsletter articles are written on TASWORD TWO and transmitted to me over the phone! I may not even have to answer the phone-the TS2068 with the Westridge 2050 modem and this software may do it for me!

NEW-more computers on TV! FAMILY COMPUTING magazine has a TV series on Tuesday nights at 8:30 PM on the LIFE(?) channel on cable. It is available in the Binghamton area. Also, on Saturday mornings on WSKG, channel 46, watch COMPUTER CHRONICLES.

GOTO FAM 200 on COMPUSERVE to join the new FAMILY COMPUTING SIG. Also, GO CEM 450 to visit the COMPUTER & ELECTRONICS SIG which has a very active TIMEX Sinclair group that even meets for an "ON LINE CONFERENCE" every Wednesday night at 10:00 PM Eastern time. You can chat with other TIMEXers ala CBER talk!

SAVE money-the word is that TIMEX' inventory of TS2068s is now reaching the retailers-it had been purchased by one company-the price will start sneaking back up, starting with a jump of \$10 next month. So you may want to consider getting one (or a second one to make your "Spectrum"-read Wes' article [page 7] on Spectrum emulators.)

ON ERR: TONY CEKOLIN (from Mobile, Ala) your program WILL be in the November issue! When I pulled the listing from my file it was too faded to copy (a danger of thermal paper!) and it was just too late for me to type it in! Many thanks, we'll get it! GE

REM CHESS-O-RAMA was conceived as an activity to give user groups exposure. As I write this I am not sure of its success, in terms of other groups being there. The effort has been made-nearly entirely by PAUL HILL and TED KORANYE, including attending other club meetings- SINCUS will be there and you can be proud of the effort!

ON COMPUSERVE-use EMAIL to reach me:
GARY ENNIS-ID# 74666,1246